The Honorable J. Kelley Arnold

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WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT TACOMA
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### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT TACOMA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff,
V.

EMILIAN MADALIN NITA,
Defendant.

BEFORE the Honorable J. Kelley Arnold, United States Magistrate Judge, U. S. Courthouse, Tacoma, Washington.

# COUNT ONE (Use of Forged Passport)

On or about December 28, 2010, at Bremerton, within the Western District of Washington, the defendant, EMILIAN MADALIN NITA, did willfully and knowingly use a false, forged, counterfeited, and altered passport, to wit, by presenting a false, forged, counterfeited, and altered Slovakian passport, in the false name of D.S., in order to open bank accounts at a branch of Bank of America.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1543.

## COUNT TWO (Use of Forged Passport)

On or about January 20, 2011, at Silverdale, within the Western District of Washington, the defendant, EMILIAN MADALIN NITA, did willfully and knowingly

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use a a false, forged, counterfeited, and altered passport, to wit, by presenting a false, forged, counterfeited, and altered Slovakian passport, in the false name of D.S., in order to open bank accounts at a branch of Bank of America.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1543.

I, Rhys G. Williams, being duly sworn, do hereby depose and say:

- 1. I am a Special Agent with the Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), assigned to the Seattle Field Division. I have been so employed for eight years. My duties include investigation of violent crime and organized crime.
- 2. The facts set forth in this affidavit are based upon my personal observations, my training and experience, and information obtained from other law enforcement officers. This affidavit is intended merely to show that there is sufficient probable cause for arrest and does not purport to set forth all of my knowledge of or investigation into this matter. Unless specifically indicated otherwise, all conversations and statements described in this affidavit are related in substance and in part only.

#### I. SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION

3. As set forth below, there is substantial evidence that EMILIAN MADALIN NITA has used a false, forged Slovakian passport, bearing his photograph but with a false name, to open bank accounts at branches of Bank of America in the Western District of Washington. There is also substantial evidence that EMILIAN MADALIN NITA did this in furtherance of a scheme to defraud, in which various victims, who thought they were buying cars offered for sale over the internet, were deceived into making wire transfers into bank accounts controlled by EMILIAN MADALIN NITA and his co-conspirators.

#### II. DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

4. Bank of America has provided documentary evidence indicating that an individual purporting to be D.S. opened (i) a personal bank account on December 28, 2010, at a branch of Bank of America in East Bremerton, Washington, and (ii) a business bank account on January 20, 2011, under the business name of Cars Consultants LLC, at

- a branch of Bank of America in Silverdale, Washington. The account opening documents reflect that on both occasions, as his primary form of identification for opening the bank accounts, the individual purporting to be D.S. presented a Slovakian passport in the name of D.S.
- 5. I have also reviewed surveillance video from Bank of America, from various transactions associated with the accounts opened in the name of D.S. This surveillance video includes video from Bremerton, on December 28, 2010, when the first D.S. accounts were opened, and from Silverdale, on January 20, 2011, when the business accounts in the name of D.S. were opened. All of the surveillance video supplied by Bank of America features the same suspect. I have seen EMILIAN MADALIN NITA in person, and recognize him as the suspect in the Bank of America surveillance video.
- 6. Through a consent search on various items of luggage belonging to EMILIAN MADALIN NITA, I recovered identification documents bearing the photograph of EMILIAN MADALIN NITA, but with several different names. Among these identification documents were two in the name of D.S., including one purporting to be a Slovakian identification card, and another purporting to be an international driver's license. In addition, I recovered several apparently genuine identification documents in the name of EMILIAN MADALIN NITA (such as his California driver's license, Social Security Card, green card, and Romanian passport), as well as an apparently false Lithuanian passport under the name of D.A.
- 7. In an in-custody interview, in the presence of his attorney and after receiving *Miranda* warnings, EMILIAN MADALIN NITA admitted that he had used a passport in the name of D.S. to open the accounts at Bank of America. EMILIAN MADALIN NITA also stated that he had opened an account in the name of D.S. at a branch of Wells Fargo bank.
- 8. The D.S. accounts appear to have been opened by EMILIAN MADALIN NITA as part of a scheme to defraud. In particular, information supplied by Bank of America indicates that on February 1, 2011, the Cars Consultants LLC account received a

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wire transfer of \$19,000. The person who made this wire transfer, C.W.P. of Savannah, Georgia, subsequently filed a complaint with the Internet Crimes Complaint Center, indicating that he had wired the \$19,000 after seeing an advertisement on Autotrader for a 2008 Lexus, and reaching agreement with the purported seller on a price for the car. C.W.P. reported that after he wired the money, he never received the car.

9. Surveillance video and transaction records indicate that on February 2, 2011, after the wire from C.W.P. was received in the Cars Consultants LLC account, EMILIAN MADALIN NITA went into two different branches of Bank of America, one in Port Orchard and one in Bremerton, Washington, and made withdrawals of \$8,900 and \$9,300, respectively.

#### III. CONCLUSION

10. Based on the foregoing information, I respectfully submit that there is probable cause to believe the defendant has committed the offenses charged above.

RMYS G. WILLIAMS, Complainant Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Based on the Complaint and Affidavit sworn to before me, and subscribed in my presence, the Court hereby finds there is probable cause to believe the defendant has committed the offenses set forth in the Complaint.

Dated this <u>//</u> day of September, 2011.

THE HONORABLE J. KELLEY ARNOLD United States Magistrate Judge